

THE CABINET'S X-MAS.

Where Mr. Cleveland and His Advisers
Dine To-morrow.

MANY JOLLY FAMILY PARTIES.

Mr. Manning's illness the only cloud
on the festivities.

The President and Mrs. Cleveland will spend Christmas at the White House, going to church as usual, and eat their Christmas dinner with probably Colonel and Mrs. Lamont as their only guests. Mrs. Cleveland has been very busy lately preparing Christmas gifts for her friends, both here and at a distance. The news of Mr. Manning's death, which is hourly expected, throws a shadow over the Christmas festivities, both at the White House and in the Cabinet household, and for this reason the observance of the holiday will be generally restricted to the family circle. Nothing definite can be told of the day whether or not the death of Mr. Manning will cause the New Year's reception to be omitted, but it is generally thought that as the preparations have been all made, the day will be observed as usual.

AT SECRETARY BAYARD'S.
Secretary Bayard's house will be reopened to society on January 2, when his daughters will receive with him at the New Year's reception. Mrs. Warren, the Secretary's married daughter, will chaperon her younger sisters. She arrived yesterday with her husband and her younger sister, Nellie, who has been at school since the beginning of the holidays and perhaps a longer time with her father. The Secretary will have all his daughters and younger sons under the roof for Christmas day. At the New Year's reception, the Diplomatic Corps will be invited to dine at Secretary Bayard's residence after they leave the White House. The ladies of the family, assisted by a number of others, will receive throughout the afternoon.

AT SECRETARY FAIRCHILD'S.
Secretary and Mrs. Fairchild will spend Christmas very quietly. On Tuesday next Mrs. Fairchild will go to New York for a stay of a day or two, and will therefore not receive on Wednesday next. In view of Mr. Manning's condition Mrs. Fairchild would not receive next week even if she were in town, as she has been at school here the day before and herself have not accepted invitations, and withdrew those they had out for a contemplated dinner party last evening. Mrs. Fairchild will receive on New Year's, if the day's arrangements as already planned by the President and Mrs. Cleveland are carried out.

SECRETARY AND MRS. WHITNEY
will have a gay Christmas with their children, the three eldest of whom are home from school, and tiny Dorothy, who thrives splendidly. They will indulge the youngsters in an old-fashioned stocking-hanging to-night about the wide mantle of the chimney-place in the ball-room, and next week, Master William Vanderbilt and Master Charles Darlow will come on from New York to enjoy some holiday cheer with the Whitneys before they leave. They are assisted by a number of ladies, will receive on New Year's day.

SECRETARY ENDICOTT'S FAMILY
will enjoy their Christmas here instead of going to Salem as has been their custom. Mrs. Endicott is slowly improving from her sprained ankle, and now hopes to receive on New Year's day.

MRS. VILAN IS NOT STAYING
enough yet to look forward to receiving on New Year's day or probably at all this winter. The house will therefore in all probability be closed that day to callers. During the past week Mrs. Vilan has not been able to leave her bed, and as she gets stronger enough the family think of going to their home in Madison, Wis., where they will spend Christmas with their children. Mrs. Vilan and Miss Mollie Vilan, who is home for the holidays from boarding school, and Master Henry Vilan.

SECRETARY LAMAR'S FAMILY
is scattered this Christmas. Mrs. Lamar is down in Macon, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Lamar, Jr., will move into apartments to-day at 1418 K street. The Secretary will eat his Christmas dinner in all probability with his daughter, Mrs. William Lamar, at her pretty residence, 2015 H street, where she is spending Christmas with her children. Mrs. Lamar will not be home this winter, and the latter will spend quite a time down South.

The Mexican Parrot Post.
In regard to the parrot post arrangement between this country and Mexico, a correspondent writing from the City of Mexico says:

As yet no permanent regulations have been published governing mercantile traffic by postal means in Mexico, but as soon as the Mexican people clearly understand the advantage of being able to order by mail from our catalogues and purchase the immense quantities of merchandise and luxury which are to be had here and cheaper in every American city, they will gladly avail themselves of the new service, and the packages will be transported by mail at small cost and with little trouble.

Representative Moffatt's Remains.
The remains of the late Representative Seth C. Moffatt were taken West last night at 8:10 in a special car. Representative Cutchene, Brewer, Ford, Fisher, Schuyler, Lyman and Wade and Senator Palmer accompanied them to the late Congressman's home in Travers City, Mich. Mrs. Moffatt and her son and daughter accompanied her late son to see Mr. Moffatt's remains, who was on the train. At Port Wayne the funeral train will be met by a delegation from Travers City. Rev. Mr. Cole of Michigan accompanied the remains, but no services were held in this city.

Six Months for Assault.
Walter Bennett, charged with assault to kill, was allowed to plead guilty to the charge of simple assault on Sarah Boyd on the 15th of November last. The Government stated that it had been shown that he had a pen-knife cleaning his fingernails when they were on an attention, and he slashed at her with a knife. They were friendly shortly after the cutting. He was sentenced to six months in jail.

Christmas for Colored Children.
The colored children's Christmas Club has been organized and will give a dinner on the 25th at the residence of Mrs. J. M. Church. The contributions have been liberal, and the poor colored children will be sure of a good dinner. The officers are Mrs. Albert Taylor, president; Miss E. P. Smith, secretary, and Mrs. M. V. Dutcher, treasurer.

Louis Bellows, an inmate of the Washington Asylum, was found dead in bed at the house of Mr. Conway, on Connecticut street, southeast, about 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT.

Comparative Statistics that are Satisfactory and Convincing.

A comparative record of the weekly death rates of all the principal Atlantic seaboard cities is now kept at the Health Office, and Dr. Townsend finds by making comparisons from time to time that Washington stands well in the list as a healthy city. Even with our large colored population, among whom the death rate is twice as great as among the white people, we stand third in the list of six cities and considerably below the mean death rate of the six.

The following table shows the death rate per 1,000 per annum of the cities for the three weeks ending November 20, December 3, and December 10, beginning with the city with the lowest death rate:

	Nov. 20, Dec. 3, Dec. 10.	Mean.
Baltimore.....	17.01	16.88
Buffalo.....	16.91	17.07
Wash.....	16.91	17.09
Brooklyn.....	21.00	22.50
Philadelphia.....	21.00	22.50
Boston.....	21.50	22.00
Total.....		121.80
New York.....		22.48
Washington.....		22.48

Mean of Washington

20.68

2.11

The above statement shows that Baltimore and Philadelphia are only slightly better off than Washington, while Brooklyn, New York, and Boston are very much higher. The Health Office authorities say that this average is kept up, and the Potomac and the Potomac water are not so fatal after all.

THE TURF EXCHANGE CASE.

It Will Come Up in the Criminal Court on Next Saturday.

Judge Wilson appeared in the Criminal Court this morning and asked that the arraignment of Edward Jones, charged with keeping a gaming table, be postponed until Saturday next, when he would be prepared with a motion to quash the indictment. The Judge stated that for the purpose of testing the question of whether the keeping of pool rooms where betting on horse racing is carried on comes within the meaning of the gaming statute. He had been given to understand that the case would be certified to the Court in General Term.

Assistant District Attorney Lipscomb suggested that when the court heard the case he might not think it of sufficient importance to certify it to the Court in General Term. Judge Wilson said that he would be prepared to argue the motion at that time, and the arraignment was postponed until Saturday next.

A Seven-Days' Drunk.

Joseph Elms, white, was tried this morning in the Criminal Court, charged with stealing a \$50 watch from P. J. May in May last. Mr. May thought he had lost the watch. John Warner bought the watch from Elms, thinking it to be of little or no value. The defendant stated that he was drunk on the day of the larceny. He lay down in the street and the watch was found on him. He had been to a seven-days' drunk, and had tried to get to his aunt's, but could not make it.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

W. J. Goucher and Kate E. Shombert; John Marshall Porter and Lucy Ellen Wright; Albert Hillinger, Grafton, W. Va., and Mary E. Macera, city; W. H. White and Emma J. Manning, Solomon Hebborn and Georgiana Doubling, Prince George's County, Md.; John Pollock and Susie Brent; John Campbell and Laura Seidman, Wm. C. Pierpont, Howard County, Md., and Georgiana I. Cross, Prince George's County, Md.; Alfred Husey and Carrie Anderson; Jeremiah W. Beale, Alexandria City, Va., and Mary J. Beach, Fairfax County, Va.; M. P. White, Boston, and Helen L. Townsend, city; John W. Smith, Washington, city; and Laura E. Elliott, Coal Port, Pa.

Arraigned in Court.

The following arraignments were made in the Criminal Court to-day: Robert Gray, grand larceny, plea, not guilty; Julius Lee and Wm. Jackson, housebreaking in the night, plea, not guilty; John C. Smith, Walter Snowden assault to kill, plea, not guilty; Frederick K. Ames, plea, not guilty; Washington, embezzlement, not guilty; George Weeks, assault to kill, not guilty; James H. Myers, rape, not guilty; James H. Holt, embezzlement, not guilty.

Church of the Incarnation.

At the Church of the Incarnation, corner Twelfth and S streets northwest, Rev. I. L. Townsend, pastor, an elaborate Christmas program has been prepared. Among the leading features of the service in the morning will be "Dyke's Te Deum," an anthem "O Zion that bringeth glad tidings," by Sauer, and "Our Sanctus and Gloria in excelsis," by the choir. At 4 o'clock there will be sung a festival Magnificat and Nine Lessons, by Mann, and the anthem "Adest, Princeps," by Elvey.

A Reminiscence of Poe.

Mrs. Eliza Lyon, whose burial took place in Richmond yesterday, at the age of 86, was the sister of William White, the founder of the Southern Literary Magazine, of which the late John L. Thompson was the post-editor, and which Thompson sold to Poe, after republishing a book of often called "The Raven." There, you may have seen the poem, and the evening service at 4 o'clock will be sung a festival Magnificat and Nine Lessons, by Mann, and the anthem "Adest, Princeps," by Elvey.

Federal Lodge Election.

At the annual meeting of Federal Lodge, No. 1872, Knights of Honor, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: Louis Melius, dictator; F. G. Tilton, vice-dictator; E. F. Bates, assistant dictator; D. T. Jones, chaplain; Edward L. Mills, reporter; N. C. Martin, financial reporter; H. A. Brown, treasurer; David L. Berke, guide; George Miller, guardian; J. F. Hickox, sentinel; trustees, L. B. Parker, J. H. Hickox and J. B. Handolph.

The "Zoo" Not Ready Yet.

The zoological collection of the National Museum, described in yesterday's Critic, could not be opened to-day, as was expected. There still remains a great deal of work to be done, and it is not probable that it will be opened to the public before Wednesday of next week, and perhaps not then.

Old Dominion Notes.

A portion of the spike mill at the Tredgar Iron Works in Richmond was damaged to the extent of \$5,000 by fire yesterday.

Mayor Cartwright of Richmond has issued a proclamation to the children asking them to observe the Sabbath, but giving them the run of the city on Monday to blow horns, pop crackers and do what they will.

Harris D. Burrows.

Harris D. Burrows, a well-known citizen of King William County, dropped dead of heart disease near West Point yesterday.

A Charitable Act.

A representative of the Critic called on Mr. G. W. Harvey, the prominent caterer of the National Capital, this morning, by request, but found him too busy to talk to the Critic. He said he was engaged in preparing a great deal of Christmas gifts to the poor, and he was not able to do so much for the poor. A very commendable act and worthy of emulation.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL.

Colonel and Mrs. Biddle have sent out invitations for an evening party January 3. Miss Biddle makes her debut on this occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Brown entertained the dancing class last night. The choruses were Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Whitney, Mrs. de Reuter, and other members. The company was those invited on previous occasions.

Mrs. Whitney gives a New Year's eve dance to the class, which completed the series. These parties have been so successful that it is more than probable that the club will be the nucleus for events of wider significance.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis' reception on Monday evening, Mrs. Edie's tea on Tuesday, the second letter afternoon reception on Thursday, and the dancing class party are a few of the events for the coming week.

Mrs. Pindexter Dunn of Arkansas has arrived at the National Hotel. Representative Dunn, who is still at Los Angeles, where he went for his health, is expected here soon. Little Annie Dunn, who is only 1 year old, has won quite a name and fame in the City of the Angels as a musician. She played twice in the opera-house on the violin, to the delight and wonder of an immense audience. Five hundred children were engaged in the concert, but she was the acknowledged star of the evening.

THE MILLER BUILDING CHORE.

But It Will Not Be Used for an Industrial School.

The Commissioners took some important action in regard to the Miller and the Mary Hall buildings to-day. School Trustee L. A. Cornish and Rev. W. H. Brooks of the Nineteenth-Street Baptist Church had a long interview with Commissioner Webb. They advocated strongly the renting of the Miller building, on H street, between Sixth and Seventh streets, and the abandonment of the Mary Hall building, at Four-and-a-half street and Maryland avenue southwest.

Mr. Webb promised to lay the matter before the Board of Commissioners at their meeting, which was called a couple of hours later. The Commissioners, at their meeting, will decide whether the Miller building should be rented at a rental of \$800 per annum, to be paid quarterly.

They decided, however, not to abandon the Mary Hall building, but to occupy it for a cooking and manual training school for colored children. The object of the colored people was to have the Miller building rented in lieu of the Mary Hall building. The Commissioners told the gentlemen that they would not interfere with the action of the School Board in selecting the Mary Hall building for the school, but that the responsibility for the choice rested with the board, but Mr. Brooks held that it was Mr. Webb who signed the contracts he was usually responsible.

CASES DISCONTINUED.

The District Attorney decides on a Number of Not Guilty Verdicts.

District Attorney Worthington came into the Criminal Court this morning with a number of nolle prosequis. The first was the case of John W. Drew, the last of the navy fraud cases. Mr. Worthington said that all of these cases, except the one in question, had been disposed of and he was satisfied that a conviction was out of the question. He had corresponded with the Attorney-General on the subject and had been advised to drop the case. The "John W. Drew" case, which grew out of the Star route trial, was also finally disposed of by nolle prosequi in the cases of Frank H. Fall, Frederick E. Shaw and James A. Nelson.

The following cases were also disposed of in the same manner: George A. Adams indicted for forgery, February, 1887; Maier King, grand larceny, October, 1885 and C. B. Stratton, larceny, indicted in November last.

EXCHANGING COURTESIES.

Register Claggett and Subordinates Pleasantly Remember Each Other.

Christmas was very pleasantly celebrated in the office of the Register of Wills to-day. Mr. Claggett presented Dr. Griffith with an elegant oxidized silver inkstand and Messrs. McManus and Johnson each received a handsome silk umbrella. The employees of the office had a grand party, and Mr. Claggett all ready for presentation and would have been in a position to reciprocate handsomely if it had not been for delay on the part of the railroad company, which prevented the picture from arriving in time.

Death of Dr. Hussey.

Dr. David J. Hussey, who died yesterday at his residence, No. 128 H street, was born in Noble County, Ohio, in 1842. He served during the rebellion in the 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was promoted to the rank of colonel. He graduated in 1869 from the Chicago Medical College, in which city he practiced his profession until about six years ago, when he came to this city and received a clerkship in the Pension Office, which he had since held. He was a member of Garfield Post No. 7, O. A. R. The funeral arrangements have not yet been settled. He leaves a widow and one son, Doctor Salvayn Hussey.

An Unknown Steamer Disabled.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The British steamer Albion, from New Orleans, which arrived at Liverpool, December 21, reports that on the 18th inst., in latitude 50 north, longitude 23 west, she passed a disabled four-masted steamer, showing three red lights, sailing in the direction of the coast. It was thought that the vessel was the City of Chicago of the Inman Line, but that vessel arrived in New York this morning.

The Hanlan-Trickett Race.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Sydney, N. S. W., says the date fixed for the match rowing race between Hanlan and Trickett is May 3. Hanlan has decided to challenge Trickett to two matches to be rowed in England in September for \$800 dollars each.

Praying for Usher Fritz.

COLORED, Dec. 21.—Five thousand persons marched in procession to the shrine of the Virgin at Aix-la-Chapelle yesterday and offered prayers for the recovery of the Crown Prince of Prussia.

St. Louis Defies Chicago.

St. Louis man (in his room at Chicago hotel, preparing to retire)—"What's this sign 'Don't blow out the gas'! All right. If the lady wants, or to burn all night, I'll burn it. What's this backed up over the door? 'Bless of the house.' Jesus. 'All as burned after 12 o'clock p. m. will be charged for so. That's the game. It's a darned blow to me, and I'll pay for it. I'll burn it for myself, but I'll not be a good-blasted traitor! I'll die to see my doghouse Chicago bulldozer get ahead of me. I'll see it! (He takes water-cure on gas and crawls into bed.)—Chicago Tribune.

The Son and Heir.

"Maudie, what's the matter?" asked Bobby, laboriously tripping over the syllables of the long word. "Why, it's—nothing you get from your father and me," replied the mother, a little puzzled for a definition suited to his years. Silence for a moment. "I'll tell you, it's a 'hereditary'—(Philadelphia Telegraph.)

THE DRIFTING RAFT.

None of the Incoming Steamers See the Monster.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The whereabouts of J. D. Leary's derelict raft still continues an unsolved problem. Three vessels are now in search of it. Steamships which arrived yesterday failed to sight it. The Gunston steamer Wisconsin reached port yesterday, and Captain Bentley said that if he had seen the raft he would have tried to save it. Early yesterday morning the Wisconsin passed thirty miles north of the spot where the Miranda lost her way. Captain Bentley was inclined to think that the raft had traveled in a southerly direction and was beyond the pathway of ocean steamers.

That she had moved in this direction was the general opinion on the Maritime Exchange, based on the fact that the prevailing winds had been from the northwest. Other vessels which arrived and reported that they had not seen the raft were the National Line steamer Canada, the steamship Warwick from Swansea and Pilot Boat No. 4, all of which passed within a few miles of where the raft and the Miranda sailed company.

The question of whether the raft can be recovered is a serious one, and a question almost as that of its whereabouts. "It is less dangerous to navigation as a solid raft than dismembered," said the officer in charge of the Hydrographic Office to-day. "If it goes to pieces there will be 37,000 obstructions floating about in the way of steamers instead of one, and many of them of a kind which it would be almost certain disaster for a vessel to meet with. All most of the logs of which the raft is made are of the species of the spruce, a steamer, but take one of the ninety-five-foot sticks, with a diameter of six feet at one end, and let it hit a vessel end on, and it would cut a hole in her which would probably sink her in a few minutes."

Alexandria News.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 21.—Dr. Lincoln of Washington, assisted by Drs. Gibson and Rowell of this city made last night a diagnosis of the case of Mayor Smoot, and it is understood, came to the conclusion that his illness is not of a serious nature as to cause him to leave his home. To-day he is feeling much better, having slept well the night before.

A number of gentlemen of this city have been invited and will participate in the fox-hunt which starts from Brightwood on Wednesday morning next, and which is expected, will be followed by President and Mrs. Cleveland.

Cadet James Reed of the United States Naval Academy is spending the holidays with his parents in this city.

The steam tug O. W. Pride is on the way at the ship-yard for repairs.

The public and private schools closed yesterday after the holidays, which will be until Tuesday the 31st of January.

W. E. Darrow, colored, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was recently injured by the cars near Mitchell's station on the V. M. R. R., was brought here yesterday and while he is expected, will be followed by President and Mrs. Cleveland.

The Indianapolis Election Frauds.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 21.—Sim Cox, Steve Matlier and W. A. Bernhamer were arrested yesterday on the indictment for alleged election frauds, and each gave bond for his appearance to answer the charges. The record of the company was yesterday set down for Jan. 18. The announcement created some surprise, as it was generally believed that a second trial would not be had. Sim Cox returned from Washington Thursday morning and was arrested yesterday. It was informed that the matter was in the hands entirely of the District Attorney.

Young McNeely Released.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 21.—A telegram was received at Saco, late yesterday afternoon, from Halifax, stating that the authorities there would not lawfully hold McNeely any longer and had released him from custody. None of the bank's property was found on him. One of the bank's sales last night; "McNeely is as safe in Halifax as he was in Liverpool." He cannot be extradited on any charge the bank may bring.

An Interesting Glove Fight.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 21.—A very interesting glove contest took place at the Theatre-Comique last evening between Harry Gilmore and Professor J. H. Clark. Up to the eighth round there were about even, but Gilmore began to get the worst of the fight, and he did not land many effective blows. The referee decided the contest a draw. Gilmore wanted to allow the match to go on.

More Postoffice Buildings.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Congressman Isaac Stevenson of Wisconsin, in an interview yesterday, said: "The Postmaster General told me that he would recommend the erection of a Government building in all towns where the postal receipts were \$5,000 and good fireproof brick buildings, costing \$8,000 each, in towns of 6,000 inhabitants."

Fighting Over "Jo Jo."

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Argument was heard yesterday upon the application of a proprietor of a Bowery music hall, who is exhibiting "Jo Jo, the Dog-Faced Boy," for an injunction restraining the rival music hall, kept on exhibiting "Jo Jo," which he claims is a base deception upon the public. Decision reserved.

Died in a Cell.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—John B. A. Rogers, formerly a large property-holder in Brooklyn, died in a station-house cell in this city yesterday morning. He had been drinking, it is said, and was insensible when taken into the station-house Tuesday night. The police found him in a cell, where he was afterwards found dead.

Dan Fulton's Punishment.

CORONA, Mich., Dec. 21.—Dan Fulton, who so brutally murdered his wife in October, was yesterday sentenced to spend his life in solitary confinement in the penitentiary. He received the sentence stoically, after begging the mercy of the court.

No other remedy has proved so effective

in relieving coughs and colds as Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

Mr. J. A. Price, Deputy Inspector, State

Tobacco Warehouse No. 3, Baltimore, Md., cordially recommends Salvation Oil for neuralgia. Price 25 cents.

THE BULL RUN PANAMA WILL BE OPEN

ON DECEMBER 28 AND JANUARY 1, 1888, at half the usual price.

TEMPTED AND FELL.

Two Young Men Who Stole to Raise Some Money.

Frederick K. Ames was arraigned in the Criminal Court this morning. He was a rather young man neatly dressed, and when the clerk had read the indictment charging him with grand larceny in stealing jewelry worth \$187 from Henry Hoffa, he asked:

"May I make a statement?"

The Court said he might, and he said: "I came here from Baltimore, tried to get employment, but couldn't. I walked out to Alexandria and tried to get a job. I couldn't find anything to do. I didn't have any money, and I took the watches."

The young man's voice was husky and it seemed to be all he could do to keep from bursting into tears.

The Court advised him to consult with counsel, but he said: "I'd rather have it settled now." The Court decided that a plea of not guilty had better be entered.

James B. Hoffa, another young man of very good appearance, was arraigned on the charge of embezzlement. The indictment charges that on December 7 he took from the firm of Shurman & Co., who had him employed as an agent, a silver watch worth \$15. He stated to the Court that he had the watch, and being in need of money pawned it, with the intention of redeeming it and restoring it. He had stated the case to the manager of the firm, Mr. Ram, who had agreed to allow him to make restitution, but he was arrested before he could do so. The Court advised him to go to trial, and he entered a plea of not guilty.

THE CHILDREN'S DINNER.

What the Christmas Club Will Provide on Wednesday.

Next Wednesday the National Rifles' Army will be besieged by so rollicking, noisy, perhaps dirty-faced, and withal as thoroughly happy a mob of children as is often got together. It is there that the Children's Christmas Club will dine the children whose Christmas dinner might otherwise be as thin as that of any other day. Bootblacks, newsboys—including little "Stuck," the Avenue character, whom everybody who is on the street at night knows—will be gathered from the streets and alleys and given a first-class dinner.

The dinner will be furnished by restaurateur Le Moure, and the menu is as follows:

French Rolls. Apple Butter.

Roasted Turkey. French Fried Potatoes.

Apples. Ice Cream. Cakes.

The ice cream will be handed around by the members of the club, selected to do so by the children in paper boxes, and those of the children who wish to can take it home with them.

This dinner will be remembered by many a child for years as a bright, well-fed spot in an otherwise hungry year.

CITY NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

—The case of George W. Henley, the Surgeon-General's office clerk charged with giving out information for the benefit of the Police Court and continued till next week.

—Each of the Sunday-school scholars of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church will receive a box of candy to-morrow.

—A fire broke out about 5:40 this morning in the residence of Henry Spohn, 1028 Seventh street northwest. Eugene Company No. 6 was telephoned for and extinguished the flames, which originated in a defective flue. The damage was about \$40.

—Mrs. Sarah G. Wilson, 717 Tenth street, was brought here yesterday for a night and a blue chinchilla overcoat, worth \$20.

—The pastor of Mount Zion M. E. Church, Rev. R. H. Hodge, residing at 1407 Twenty-eighth street, was on the eve of retiring last night when he was called to his basement by unusually loud knocks.

—The door of his dining-room was filled with numbers of his members, who deposited upon his tables turkeys, hams, fowl, canned fruits, soups, and other delicacies, and then retired to their homes, leaving the pastor amazed. He called a family council to behold the groaning tables and then retired to his room, dreaming of a merry Christmas.

West Washington.

—Elaborate preparations are being made in the Episcopal and Catholic churches here to celebrate Christmas. The floral and other decorations will be unusually handsome and the churches will prove very attractive. Some of the choir will be augmented by orchestral accompaniments.

—On a canal boat, lying in Rock Creek, the Rev. Mr. Hodge, a saint and a good witness by a few good Samaritans, tried to render what aid they could in such a case. A boatman named Decker, blind and crippled, was in the narrow limits of the little cabin of the boat. His grief-stricken wife and four little children were gathered around the lifeless form, helpless in their extreme poverty to care either for the dead or for themselves. A representative of the Third Subdivision Associated Charities was present and said the case would be referred to by that division. At the same time here is an opportunity for the exercise of true charity and good will toward man.

—Temperature and condition of water at the Episcopal and Catholic churches here to celebrate Christmas. The floral and other decorations will be unusually handsome and the churches will prove very attractive. Some of the choir will be augmented by orchestral accompaniments.

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